

Dear Dean, pursuant to my continuing interest in biomedical education and research, I am presently attempting to compile data which will indicate the broad needs of medical education institutions. While much secondary information exists preliminary investigation indicates that medical schools have often been bypassed in determining these needs. I would thus greatly appreciate an indication from you of the professional trends that recent graduates of your medical school have taken or may be expected to take. While your own convenient and available information may permit a more comprehensive analysis, I would request an estimation of the following for your graduating classes of 1967 and 1968.

(1) the total number of medical graduates, (2) the percentage that will serve in the Armed Forces, (3) the percentage that will serve with the Armed Forces on a career basis, (4) the percentage who will specialize in one particular area of patient service-oriented medicine, (5) the percentage who will enter an academic or research career, (6) the percentage who will pursue graduate studies to achieve a specialty or an academic or research career, (7) the percentage who may be expected to enter general practice, (8) the percentage of graduates who will enter miscellaneous careers not mentioned above.

Now, we had a response from approximately 60 percent of the schools. We are continuing our evaluation of those schools and if the chairman or any members of the committee would like to see the information, it will be supplied at your request. Our entire file is at your disposal.

Mr. ROGERS (presiding). We would like to have that very much.

Mr. CAHILL. We would be happy to supply it. Our breakdown is shocking. First, primarily research or academic-oriented careers, 11 percent.

Second, general practice, 15 percent.

Third, career military service or administrative medicine, 4.5 percent. And here, I think, is the clincher. Specialists, 69.5 percent.

Now, may I say parenthetically, I cannot blame these young men. When you consider the tremendous work involved in general practice and the literally minimal return financially for that work, and the proportionate increase in income, and you relate that to the tremendous number of years that these men really put in to get their medical degrees, many of them sacrificing a great deal, many of whom we all know whose wives worked to help them through, they really do under our present system, undergo a tremendous personal sacrifice and expense to become a doctor, you really cannot blame them.

Mr. ROGERS. What was that figure?

Mr. CAHILL. 69.5 percent are going into specialties.

Mr. SKUBITZ. Will the gentlemen yield? I do not blame a young fellow for going into specialties.

Mr. CAHILL. Nor do I.

Mr. SKUBITZ. But as a taxpayer and as a person interested in getting doctors into a community, if we are going to put up money to educate these people, provide the facilities, then this is what we should demand.

Mr. CAHILL. Yes, but Mr. Skubitz, respectfully I may say that under our present system we are not going to get them.

Mr. SKUBITZ. This is right.

Mr. CAHILL. So, we have got to change the system.

Mr. SKUBITZ. This is right.

Mr. CAHILL. You cannot expect a young man today under our present system to get into general practice.